THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no indication to suggest a low morale amongst Science students in the University system. On the contrary, the prevailing trends are indicative of high demand of science based courses among the students.

Issue of photo identity cards

†629. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voters in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of voters who have got photo identity cards in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether Central Government have released the fifty per cent share of the total cost to all the States for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The State-wise number of voters and the number of voters having photo-idenity cards in the country is given in the Statement (*See* below)..

(c) and (d) The Union Government has so far released a total sum of Rs. 644,27,00,000/- on provisional basis since the financial year 1994-95 upto 2006-07 towards the scheme of issuance of Photo Identity Cards to Voters. In respect of four State Governments, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Orissa and Tamil Nadu, there is a provisional liability of the Government of India aggregating to around Rs. 30.91 crores to be discharged, which will be partially diluted during the current financial year itself, notwithstanding the facts that the accounts of these States are pending settlement since the past few years due to non-receipt of Audit Certificates and on receipt of the same it is likely that the actual liability will be considerably reduced. In so far as the other States are concerned, the provisional releases made to them since 1994-95 still remain un-utilized and are lying in excess in most of the cases, for being adjusted against future expenditure on this account.

Statement

The Number of Electors and EPIC issued

Sl.	State/Union Territory	Total Electors w.r.t. 01-01-2006 roll		Grand total	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards	% of EPIC issued (Column 3 & 6)
		General	Service*			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	53,571,192	38,285	53,609,477	39,395,792	73.54
2	Arunachal Pradesh**	672,916	1146	674,062	304,822	45.30
3	Assam	17,410,558	24,393	17,434,951	#67,479	0.39
4	Bihar $	52,541,922	40,266	52,582,188	40,701,930	77.47
5	Chhattisgarh	13,999,848	5,310	14,005,158	9,620,499	68.72
6	Goa	994,079	780	994,859	574,320	57.77
7	Gujarat	36,477,199	15,215	36,492,414	22,779,669	62.45
8	Haryana	12,317,361	83,117	12,400,478	10,742,934	87.22
9	Himachal Pradesh	4,163,518	58,230	4,221,748	3,053,116	73.33
10	Jammu & Kashmir	6,284,658	37,164	6,321,822	3,198,936	50.90
11	Jharkhand	17,873,713	7,427	17,881,140	11,360,772	63.56
12	Karnataka	41,610,955	35,881	41,646,836	32,517,985	78.15
13	Kerala	21,268,230	50,900	21,319,130	20,824,302	97.91
14	Madhya Pradesh	38,446,833	22,438	38,469,271	27,254,099	70.89
15	Maharashtra	66,438,515	99,260	66,537,775	44,455,999	66.91
16	Manipur^^	1,701,401	5,245	1,706,646	##783,935	46.08
17	Meghalaya	1,339,181	629	1,339,810	1,033,575	77.18
18	Mizoram	565,094	1,328	567,422	468,652	82.93
19	Nagaland	1,268,359	2,710	1,271,069	723,749	57.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20	Orissa	26,800,012	28,010	26,828,022	20,701,672	77.25
21	Punjab^^	16,858,308	60,128	16,918,436	12,950,641	76.62
22	Rajasthan	34,679,671	84,032	34,763,703	28,394,555	81.88
23	Sikkim	294,223	391	294,614	220,297	74.87
24	Tamil Nadu	46,304,764	57,188	46,361.95229,105,309		62.86
25	Tripura	2,106,093	1,939	2,108,032	1,610,496	76.47
26	Uttar Pradesh^^	114,344,263	111,248	114,455,511	79,543,922	69.57
27	Uttarakhand^^	5,961,350	81,278	6,042,628	4,286,910	71.91
28	West Bengal	48,965,141	51,522	49,016,663	45,760,610	93.46
29	A & N Islands	254,809	399	255,208	214,282	84.10
30	Chandigarh	572,662	1,642	574,304	390,308	68.16
31	D & N Haveli	129.860	20	129,880	95,645	73.65
32	Daman & Diu	88,263	10	88,273	59,847	68.81
33	Lakshadweep	40,421	43	40,284	36,506	90.72
34	NCT of Delhi	10,123,095	6,661	10,129,756	6,438,847	63.61
35	Pondcherry	649,168	356	649,524	638,099	98.29
	TOTAL:	697,117,452	1,015,591	698,133,043	500,310,511	71.77

* Service electors means a member of the Armed forces of the Union, a member of the Armed Police Force of a State, and serving outside that State or employed under the Govt. of India in a post outside India.

** Except AC No. 4, 46, 49 & 50 in Arunachal Pradesh.

In the first phase in 1996-97, total 67,479 EPICs werer prepared but not distributed. The issue of EPIC programme is currently not underway in Assam.

$ Electors w.r.t. 1-1-2005 roll. Nor. evision undertaken in 2006 in Bihar.

^^ Elector w.r.t. 1-1-2007 roll in respect of Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand & NCT of Delhi.

A total of 1033733 EPICs were issued for the photography done till 1997. As per the survey conducted by the Dy Commissioners 90% of them are not available with the electors owing to snatching away of EPICs by the underground elements.